

# Mathematics Background Questionnaire

## Grade 8

This section has 18 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question.

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1. What math class are you taking this year?
- ☐ Ⓐ Geometry
  - ☐ Ⓑ Algebra II
  - ☐ Ⓒ Algebra I (one-year course)
  - ☐ Ⓓ First year of a two-year Algebra I course
  - ☐ Ⓔ Second year of a two-year Algebra I course
  - ☐ Ⓕ Introduction to algebra or pre-algebra
  - ☐ Ⓖ Basic or general eighth-grade math
  - ☐ Ⓗ Integrated or sequential math
  - ☐ Ⓙ Other math class

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2. What math class do you expect to take next year?
- ☐ Ⓐ Geometry
  - ☐ Ⓑ Algebra II
  - ☐ Ⓒ Algebra I (one-year course)
  - ☐ Ⓓ First year of a two-year Algebra I course
  - ☐ Ⓔ Second year of a two-year Algebra I course
  - ☐ Ⓕ Introduction to algebra or pre-algebra
  - ☐ Ⓖ Basic or general math
  - ☐ Ⓗ Integrated or sequential math
  - ☐ Ⓙ Business or consumer math
  - ☐ Ⓚ Other math class
  - ☐ Ⓛ I don't know.

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3. Do you study or do work for math at an after-school or tutoring program?
- ☐ Ⓐ Yes
  - ☐ Ⓑ No

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4. How often do you feel the following way in your math class? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Sometimes	Often	Always or almost always	
a. I have a clear understanding of what my math teacher is asking me to do.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC497573
b. The math work is too easy.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC497574
c. The math work is challenging.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC497575
d. The math work is engaging and interesting.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC497576
e. I am learning.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC497577

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5. Please indicate how much you DISAGREE or AGREE with the following statements. Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	
a. Because math is fun, I wouldn't want to give it up.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC189707
b. I like math.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC189710
c. Math is one of my favorite subjects.	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VC189711

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6. How often do you use these different types of calculators in your math class?

	Never use	Sometimes, but not often	Usually use	
a. Basic four-function (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division)	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB517160
b. Scientific (not graphing)	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB517161
c. Graphing	(A)	(B)	(C)	VB517282


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7. When you take a math test or quiz, how often do you use a calculator?
- ☐ Ⓐ Never
  - ☐ Ⓑ Sometimes
  - ☐ Ⓒ Always

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8. For each of the following activities, how often do you use a **calculator**? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Once every few weeks	About once a week	Two or three times a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. To check your work on math homework assignments	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓔ	VB543270
b. To calculate the answers to math homework problems	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓔ	VB543271
c. To work in class on math lessons led by your teacher	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓔ	VB543272

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VB525162

9. What kind of **calculator** do you usually use when you are **not in math class**?

  - ☐ Ⓐ None
  - ☐ Ⓑ Basic four-function (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division)
  - ☐ Ⓒ Scientific (not graphing)
  - ☐ Ⓓ Graphing
10. How often do you use a computer for math at school?

  - ☐ Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
  - ☐ Ⓑ Once every few weeks
  - ☐ Ⓒ About once a week
  - ☐ Ⓓ Two or three times a week
  - ☐ Ⓔ Every day or almost every day



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11. Do you use a computer for math homework at home?

- ☐ A Yes
- ☐ B No

12. On a typical day, how much time do you spend doing work for math class on a computer? Include work you do in class and for homework.

- ☐ A None
- ☐ B Half an hour or less
- ☐ C About 1 hour
- ☐ D About 2 hours
- ☐ E More than 2 hours



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13. When you are doing math for school or homework, how often do you use these **different types of computer programs**? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	Once every few weeks	About once a week	Two or three times a week	Every day or almost every day	
a. A spreadsheet program for math class assignments	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	<input type="radio"/> (C)	<input type="radio"/> (D)	<input type="radio"/> (E)	VB543157
b. A program to practice or drill on math facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division)	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	<input type="radio"/> (C)	<input type="radio"/> (D)	<input type="radio"/> (E)	VB543158
c. A program that presents new math lessons with problems to solve	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	<input type="radio"/> (C)	<input type="radio"/> (D)	<input type="radio"/> (E)	VB543160
d. The Internet to learn things for math class	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	<input type="radio"/> (C)	<input type="radio"/> (D)	<input type="radio"/> (E)	VB543159
e. A calculator program on the computer to solve or check problems for math class	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	<input type="radio"/> (C)	<input type="radio"/> (D)	<input type="radio"/> (E)	VB543161
f. A graphing program on the computer to make charts or graphs for math class	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	<input type="radio"/> (C)	<input type="radio"/> (D)	<input type="radio"/> (E)	VB543262
g. A statistical program to calculate patterns such as correlations or cross tabulations	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	<input type="radio"/> (C)	<input type="radio"/> (D)	<input type="radio"/> (E)	VB517157
h. A word processing program to write papers for math class	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	<input type="radio"/> (C)	<input type="radio"/> (D)	<input type="radio"/> (E)	VB543156
i. A program to work with geometric shapes for math class	<input type="radio"/> (A)	<input type="radio"/> (B)	<input type="radio"/> (C)	<input type="radio"/> (D)	<input type="radio"/> (E)	VC466133


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14. Do you use the Internet at home?

- ☐ A Yes
- ☐ B No

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15. How often do you use e-mail, instant messages, blogs, or text messages to do any of the following? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

- |   | Never<br>or hardly<br>ever | Once<br>every few<br>weeks | About<br>once a<br>week | Two or<br>three times<br>a week | Every day<br>or almost<br>every day |          |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| a. Talk online with friends<br>about math work  | <input type="radio"/> A    | <input type="radio"/> B    | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D         | <input type="radio"/> E             | VC299268 |
| b. Get help with math from<br>someone other than your<br>teacher, family, classmates,<br>or friends | <input type="radio"/> A    | <input type="radio"/> B    | <input type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D         | <input type="radio"/> E             | VC189626 |

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16. How hard was this test compared to most other tests you have taken this year in school?

- ☐ A Easier than other tests
- ☐ B About as hard as other tests
- ☐ C Harder than other tests
- ☐ D Much harder than other tests

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18. How important was it to you to do well on this test?

- ☐ A Not very important
- ☐ B Somewhat important
- ☐ C Important
- ☐ D Very important

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17. How hard did you try on this test compared to how hard you tried on most other tests you have taken this year in school?

- ☐ A Not as hard as on other tests
- ☐ B About as hard as on other tests
- ☐ C Harder than on other tests
- ☐ D Much harder than on other tests

